#### **National Juvenile Court Data Archive**

National Center for Juvenile Justice 3700 South Water Street, Suite 200 Pittsburgh, PA 15203

# User's Guide to Mississippi Juvenile Court Case Records 1980-1984

#### **MISSISSIPPI**

#### **JUVENILE COURT CASE RECORDS**

1980-1984

#### **USER'S GUIDE**

Data collected by:

Mississippi Department of Youth Services 301 North Lamar Street, Suite 410 Jackson, Mississippi 39201-1404

Data file and user's guide prepared by:

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#### INTRODUCTION

#### **History of Mississippi's Juvenile Court Statistics**

Mississippi's Department of Youth Services has been collecting information on cases processed by the state's youth court since 1979. The authority to collect this data is currently stated in Mississippi statute sections 43-27-10 and 9-19-27.

Prior to that time, juvenile court data were gathered by the Mississippi Department of Public Welfare. The data collection system was modeled after one established by the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare. The data are used for juvenile justice planning and policy decisions by juvenile probation offices, public and private agencies, as well as individual researchers.

#### **Data Collection Methods**

The youth court has exclusive original jurisdiction in all proceedings concerning delinquency, status offense, traffic offense, neglect, abuse, or special proceedings. Jurisdiction attaches at the time of the offense and can continue until the child's twentieth birthday, unless terminated sooner. The youth court does not have jurisdiction over offenses committed by a child on or after his eighteenth birthday.

The juvenile court statistical form (see Appendix 1) is designed to capture data that depicts the total activity of the court in the handling of children's cases. The form is completed by youth counselors or other designated staff in each court for each new referral of a juvenile. Completed forms are forwarded to the Department of Youth Services (hereafter referred to as the Department) for processing on a weekly basis. The Department reviews the forms for internal validity. When errors are discovered, the court which completed the form is contacted and corrections are made.

The form provides for only one referral for each child. If a child is involved in more than one case during the calendar year, a second statistical form is filled out, but the same child I.D. number is used on both sheets.

The Department has designed instructions for handling specific situations. If a child has committed two or more offenses that may be considered part of the same delinquency situation, that are reported to the court at about the same time, these offenses should be considered as a single case of delinquency.

If a child is referred for violation of probation or parole, this referral is not counted as a new case unless the reason for bringing the child back to court is the commission of a new offense or other conduct that could have resulted in referral to court even if the juvenile was not on probation. Likewise, a case brought in for rehearing is counted again only if a new situation is involved that would have brought the child to court even if he had not already been under care.

Occasionally, a preliminary information investigation is made by a court or intake office resulting in the case being referred to another agency. If the agency later returns the case to court, the case is counted only once.

In some years there are a few small counties which report zero cases. Because of their small size, it is possible for them to have had no cases during the year. In 1984 there were three

such counties. Additionally, each year there are a few data forms received by the Department of Youth Services after the deadline for submission which are not included in that year's file.

#### **Publications**

Each year the Department produces a yearly publication entitled <u>Youth Court Report</u> which includes a summary of the youth courts' activities.

#### **Archived Data Files**

Each year the National Juvenile Court Data Archive requests from the Department a data file containing a record for each case disposed during the previous calendar year and reported to the Department. The data files contain an individual record on each delinquency, status offense, traffic, dependency, and special proceedings case disposed. Cases processed formally (with a petition) and those handled informally (without a petition) are included for all courts. Records contain a county code, date of birth, age at time of referral, sex, race, date of referral, source of referral, prior referrals, care pending disposition, reason for referral, manner of handling, date of disposition, and case disposition. A case may have included more than one offense, but only the "most serious" offense (from the standpoint of the community) is recorded. Records also include information on diagnostic services needed, level of school attainment, employment status, length of residence of child in county, living arrangements of child, marital status of natural parents, annual family income, location of residence, whether the child was adjudicated a child in need of supervision, or if a juvenile was under the influence of drugs or alcohol at the time of the offense. The National Juvenile Court Data Archive staff has checked the data for invalid or inconsistent code values. When found, such codes were replaced with missing data code values.

Each case record is 66 characters in length and contains 41 variables. The data are stored in a single year file. The number of case records on each calendar year data file is as follows:

<u>Year</u>	Records
1980	14,090
1981	13,328
1982	13,803
1983	13,145
1984	12,930

#### Terms of Availability

Each request to use these data should be directed to the Archive. The Archive will contact Mississippi's Department of Youth Services regarding their release. Upon the Department's authorization to release and disseminate the data, the data files will be supplied to the requestor by the Archive with any necessary cautions or restrictions.

The Archive provides the data on magnetic tapes AS IS and shall not be held responsible for any liability incurred as a result of any error or omission in the data as it appears on the magnetic tapes. However, should any inconsistencies be found, the Archive asks to be notified so that corrections can be made to the data.

All questions and requests should be addressed to:

National Juvenile Court Data Archive National Center for Juvenile Justice 3700 South Water Street, Suite 200 Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15203 412/227-6950

Summary tabulations on selected variables (manner of handling and sex breakdowns for delinquency/status offense cases and dependency/neglect cases for each county in Mississippi) are publicly available beginning with 1982 data through the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research at the University of Michigan, P.O. Box 1248, Ann Arbor, Michigan. 48106.

#### **USING THE CODEBOOK**

The information that follows is based on a study of available documentation from the data supplier (e.g., Mississippi Department of Youth Services' 1980 statistics manual), interviews with the data supplier and court personnel, and diagnostic analyses performed by the Archive staff. The example below is a reproduction of information appearing in the codebook for a typical variable. The numbers in brackets do not appear in the codebook, but are references to the descriptions which follow this example.

	Column/ Width	Variable <u>Number</u>		Code Value and Description	
[1]	37/1	[2] MS019	[3]	VIOLATION OF PAROLE	
			[4]	Indicates the child has broken his parole during the commission of the offense for which he is being referred.	
				[5] [6]	
			[7]	(1) Yes (2) No (9) Missing	

- [1] The starting location and width of the variable in the machine-readable data file. This is the format information needed to read the data into other systems.
- [2] The variable number. The variable number is used as a variable name when the file is processed by systems which use alphabetic variable names (e.g., SPSS).
- [3] The variable label used by statistical systems to identify the variable or program output.
- [4] A description of the variable contents.
- [5] The code values occurring in the data for the variable.
- [6] The textual definitions of the codes. The first 20 characters form a short value label which some systems use to document the output of analysis programs. A longer description follows the short label when necessary.
- [7] The designation of missing data. The Archive staff has replaced any out-of-bounds codes with missing data codes. Many analysis packages require that certain types of data which are usually excluded from analysis be designated as "missing data". Fields with no entry were left blank and "( ) No entry" is listed as a code value. Some variables also have response options representing "unknown" which are also listed as code values.

## **VARIABLE LIST**

5

MS001 MS002 MS003 MS004 MS005 MS006 MS007 MS008 MS009 MS010	Sequence Number County Child ID Year of birth Month of birth Date of birth Age Sex Race Year of referral
MS011 MS012 MS013 MS014 MS015 MS016 MS017 MS018 MS019 MS020	Month of referral Date of referral Referred by Prior delinquency referrals, not traffic, this year Prior delinquency referrals, not traffic, prior years Care pending disposition Reason for referral Violation of probation Violation of parole Manner of handling
MS021 MS022 MS023 MS024 MS025 MS026 MS027 MS028 MS029 MS030	Year of disposition Month of disposition Date of disposition Disposition Number of prior traffic referrals Number of prior neglect referrals Diagnostic services psychological Diagnostic services psychiatric Diagnostic services medical Diagnostic services social
MS031 MS032 MS033 MS034 MS035 MS036 MS037 MS038 MS039 MS040	Presently in school Years of schooling completed Grade placement in relation to age Serious or persistent school misbehavior Employment status Length of residence of child in county Living arrangements of child Marital status of natural parents Annual family income Location of residence
MS041	Child in need of supervision

## **CODEBOOK: VARIABLE DESCRIPTIONS**

Column/ <u>Width</u>	Variable <u>Number</u>	Code Value and Description				
1/5	MS001	SEQUENCE NUMBER				
		A 5-digit sequential record number.				
6/2	MS002	COUNTY				
			The county in which the case was processed. Counties within the were ordered alphabetically and assigned a unique number beginn with (01).			
		(01) Adams (04) Attala (07) Calhoun (10) Choctaw (13) Clay (16) Covington (19) Franklin (22) Grenada (25) Hinds (28) Issaquena (31) Jasper (34) Jones (37) Lamar (40) Leake (43) Lincoln (46) Marion (49) Montgomery (52) Noxubee (55) Pearl River (58) Pontotoc (61) Rankin (64) Simpson (67) Sunflower (70) Tippah (73) Union (76) Washington (79) Wilkinson (82) Yazoo	(02) (05) (08) (11) (14) (17) (20) (23) (26) (29) (32) (35) (38) (41) (44) (47) (50) (53) (56) (59) (62) (65) (68) (71) (74) (77) (80) (83)	Alcorn Benton Carroll Claiborne Coahoma De Soto George Hancock Holmes Itawamba Jefferson Kemper Lauderdale Lee Lowndes Marshall Neshoba Oktibbeha Perry Prentiss Scott Smith Tallahatchie Tishomingo Walthall Wayne Winston Rankin City	(03) (06) (09) (12) (15) (18) (21) (24) (27) (30) (33) (36) (39) (42) (45) (48) (51) (54) (57) (60) (63) (66) (69) (72) (75) (78) (81) (99)	Amite Bolivar Chickasaw Clarke Copiah Forrest Greene Harrison Humphreys Jackson Jefferson Davis Lafayette Lawrence Leflore Madison Monroe Newton Panola Pike Quitman Sharkey Stone Tate Tunica Warren Webster Yalobusha Missing

## 8/6 MS003 CHILD ID

Child's identity number which should remain the same throughout his juvenile career, but only within county.

Column/ Variable

Width Number Code Value and Description

**DATE OF BIRTH**: The juvenile's birth date, coded in month/day/year format.

14/2 MS004 YEAR OF BIRTH

(60) 1960

:

(84) 1984

(99) Missing

16/2 MS005 MONTH OF BIRTH

(01) January

:

(12) December

(99) Missing

18/2 MS006 DATE OF BIRTH

(01) First

:

(31) Thirty-first

(99) Missing

20/2 MS007 AGE

The age of the juvenile on the day the case was referred to court.

(00) Less than one year

(01) One year old

٠

(19) Nineteen

(99) Missing

22/1 MS008 SEX

The sex of the juvenile.

(1) Male

(2) Female

23/1 MS009 RACE

The category which best represents the race/ethnicity of the juvenile. A

Column/ Variable Width Number

#### Code Value and Description

"6" is to be used if the proper race is not shown on the form.

- (1) White, not Hispanic
- (2) Black, not Hispanic
- (3) American Indian or Alaskan
- (4) Asian or Pacific Islander
- (5) Hispanic
- (6) Other

**DATE OF REFERRAL**: This date is needed for the age of the child when referred to the court -coded in month/day/year format. This is the date of the first report of the care under consideration to the probation officer or intake department of the court, rather than the date on which the case was brought before the judge for hearing.

#### 24/2 MS010 YEAR OF REFERRAL

(76) 1976

(84) 1984

(99) Missing

#### 26/2 MONTH OF REFERRAL MS011

(01) January

(12) December

#### 28/2 MS012 DATE OF REFERRAL

(01) First

:

(31) Thirty-first

#### 30/1 MS013 REFERRED BY

- (1) Law enforcement agency Includes park police, sheriffs, constables, and police assigned to the juvenile court for special duty.
- (2) School department Includes attendance officers, teachers, superintendents of schools, members of the board of education, etc.
- (3) Social agency Includes both public and private agencies, such as a department of public welfare, the board of health, a public health nursing agency, children's aid society, child welfare board, and

Column/ Variable Width Number

#### Code Value and Description

- institutions caring for children, such as homes for dependent children or hospitals.
- (4) Probation officer Ordinarily not many cases are referred to the court by probation officers. Occasionally a probation officer does learn of a delinquent, dependent or neglected child in the course of making another investigation.
- (5) Parents or relatives Includes the child's natural parents, foster parents, adoptive parents, step-parents, grandparents, and other relatives.
- (6) Other court Includes cases that were referred by a source other than the court for which the forms are being filled out. Includes other types of courts in the same city or county or elsewhere, as well as juvenile courts in other cities or counties.
- (7) Interstate compact Includes the agreement between states to supervise, transfer, or investigate a child's case.
- (8) Other source Includes a neighbor or friend of the child, the person injured, a prosecutor, alderman, justice of the peace, game warden, store detective, department store, theater, and so forth. Also includes cases that were referred by the child himself or by an anonymous person.

#### 31/1 MS014 PRIOR DELINQUENCY REFERRALS, NOT TRAFFIC, THIS YEAR

The number of times in the calendar year a juvenile was referred to court for a delinquency offense. This number does not include the referral for which the form is being filled out at the present time. This number does include status offenses.

- (0) None
- (1) One

:

(5) Five or more

### 32/1 MS015 PRIOR DELINQUENCY REFERRALS, NOT TRAFFIC, PRIOR YEARS

- (0) None
- (1) One

:

- (5) Five or more
- (9) Missing

#### 33/1 MS016 CARE PENDING DISPOSITION

This indicates the provision made by the court for the care of the child pending the disposition of the case.

Column/ Variable Width Number

#### Code Value and Description

- (0) No detention or shelter care overnight This includes all cases in which it is unnecessary for the court to provide detention or shelter care for the child. This item includes cases in which the child may be held for a few hours (but not overnight) in the probation office, jail, police station, detention home, or elsewhere. It also includes those that were disposed on the same day that they were received and cases that were not disposed on the same day but in which the child was allowed to remain in his own or other family home or institution in which he was living when referred to court.
- (1) Jail or police station Includes cases in which the child was detained in rooms, cells, or quarters in a police station or a jail.
- (2) Detention home Includes institutions that are maintained by the juvenile court or by the local government for the purpose of caring for delinquent, dependent or neglected children awaiting the disposition of their case. (If there is no detention home of this type but the court makes a practice of applying the term "detention home" to a boarding home or a certain private institution that it uses regularly, the case is included under either category (4) "foster home" or (5) "other place" and not under this category.)
- (3) Shelter care
- (4) Foster family home Includes a family home, other that that of relatives, in which the child was placed with provision for payment of board. Placement may be made directly by the court or by an agency or individual at the request of the court. This category also includes family homes which are "subsidized" so that they will always be available to provide detention or shelter care.
- (5) Other place Includes cases in which the child was detained in the home of relatives, friends, neighbors, and so forth, without provision for the payment of board. Also includes cases in which the child was detained in a room or rooms of a public building (other than a jail or police station). Includes cases in which a child was referred to a social agency, such as a board of public welfare or a children's aid society, for care not being known to the person preparing the report form. This category also includes institutions other than detention homes as defined in (02) above; e.g., the receiving home of a child-placing agency, a shelter maintained by a society for the prevention of cruelty to children, a home for dependent children, or a hospital.
- (9) Missing

#### 34/2 MS017 REASON FOR REFERRAL

The reason the juvenile was referred to juvenile court. If the child is alleged to have committed two or more offenses, only the offense which is most serious "from the standpoint of the community" is entered. Attempted violations of law are counted as though the offense were completed. However, if the victim of an attempted murder or assault with intent to murder does not die, the offense is classified as "assault: aggravated." For those offenses applicable to both juveniles and adults, the offense classification used is modeled closely on the FBI's <u>Uniform Crime Report</u> classification.

- (01) Murder and nonnegligent manslaughter This offense consists of the willful killing of one person by another. As a general rule, any death due to a fight, assault, or commission of a crime should be counted in this item. This does not include suicides or accidental killings (see manslaughter by negligence). Attempted murders or assaults with intent to murder are classified as "assault: aggravated."
- (02) Manslaughter by negligence Traffic deaths and deaths due to gross (culpable) negligence. If the victim dies as the result of a traffic accident for which the child is alleged to be responsible, or if he dies because the child allegedly was doing a normally legal act but doing it in a negligent manner, the offense should be counted under this category. An example of the latter situation is where the juvenile "playfully" points a pistol at a friend. He believes it to be unloaded, but it goes off and his friend is killed. Since the death resulted from carelessness rather than wrongful intent, the referral should be classed as "manslaughter by negligence," not "Murder and nonnegligent manslaughter."
- (03) Forcible rape The carnal knowledge of a female by a male forcibly and against her will. This category does not include statutory offenses (so-called "statutory rape," or "carnal knowledge") where no force is used but the victim is under the legal age of consent; such offenses are counted under "sex offenses." Included in "forcible rape" is rape accomplished by force, regardless of the victim's age. Assault with intent to rape is also included under this category.
- (04) Robbery: purse snatching by force This code is used only in those cases where the juvenile is alleged to have used force, such as knocking a woman down and snatching her purse. If force is not present then code (12) larceny is used.
- (05) Robbery: all except purse snatching Robbery is a special form of theft. It takes place in the presence of the victim (the owner or a person having custody of the property). To obtain the property or thing of value, the robber uses force or violence on the victim, or puts the victim in fear by use of threats, weapons, etc. It is like larceny in that the offender intends to deprive the owner of his property permanently but is aggravated by the element of force or threat of force.
  - If force or the threat of force is not present, as in pocket-picking or purse-snatching, the offense is coded as (12) larceny. But if the juvenile is alleged to have used force, the offense is classified as "robbery."
- (06) Assault: aggravated An attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe bodily injury. Aggravated assaults do not include any attacks of a petty nature. Variation in the manner and purpose of the attack include the following: assault with intent to kill or murder; assault with a dangerous or deadly weapon; maiming, mayhem, and assault with intent to maim or commit mayhem; assault by means of poison, assault by means of explosives; and willful obstruction of railroads. Acts

not included are simple assault, assault and battery, fighting, etc. where no weapon was used.

Assault with intent to murder or kill is counted under this item. All other assaults with intent to commit a law violation which would be a felony if committed by an adult are excluded from this item. Such assaults are coded under the associated offense. For example, assault with intent to commit rape or assault with intent to rob would be coded as "forcible rape" and "robbery," respectively.

- (07) Assault: all except aggravated This includes all assaults which are not of an aggravated nature as defined in "assault: aggravated." This category includes simple assault, assault and battery, injury caused by culpable negligence, intimidation, coercion, resisting or obstructing an officer, hazing, and drawing a dangerous weapon.
- (08) Burglary--breaking or entering Unlawfully entering a home, business house or other structure intending to steal or commit a felony. Force or a "breaking" is not necessary. Unlawful entry without force is enough if the other elements exist, e.g., the thief sneaks through an open or unlocked door to steal. Offenses included in "burglary--breaking or entering" are: burglary (all degrees), breaking and entering with intent to commit larceny or any felony, unlawfully entering with intent to commit a felony, housebreaking, burglary and larceny, and safecracking. The kinds of structures or building covered by this offense are to be determined in accordance with local law. However, theft from an automobile is coded as (12) larceny. And shoplifting is coded as (11) larceny: shoplifting.
- (09) Auto theft: unauthorized use This offense consists of the taking of a motor vehicle by a person not having lawful access thereto and subsequently abandoning the motor vehicle. "Joyride" thefts of motor vehicles are included in this item.

Motor vehicles are self-propelled wheeled conveyances such as automobiles, trucks, motor scooters, motorcycles which run on the surface of the ground. Excluded are vehicles which run on rails, over or through water, or through the air.

- (10) Auto theft: all except unauthorized use This is defined as the felonious stealing, taking and carrying, or driving away of a motor vehicle belonging to another person, without claim of right and with the intent to deprive him or his ownership, or to convert the motor vehicle to the use of the thief or another person. For definition of motor vehicle, see (09) "auto theft: unauthorized use."
- (11) Larceny: shoplifting Included in this category are <u>only</u> cases of shoplifting (even though considered as burglary under state law). No other type or larceny is included under this code.
- (12) Larceny: all except shoplifting The felonious stealing, taking and carrying, leading, riding, or driving away (except automobiles) of the personal property of another person without claim of right, with the intent to deprive him of his ownership, or

to convert such property to the use of the thief or another person. Excluded from this category are the following: shoplifting; embezzlement; fraudulent conversion of property entrusted (e.g., the conversion of goods lawfully in the possession of bailees, lodgers, and finders of lost property); and obtaining property by false pretenses. Also excluded are the stealing or unauthorized use of automobiles, which are included under "auto theft." Included are the following: theft of bicycles (including those used for joy rides); theft of auto accessories and parts such as hubcaps, license plates, wheels, seats; theft of personal articles from automobiles (even though considered to burglary under local law); purse-snatching where no more force is used than to grab the purse.

- (13) Weapons--carrying, possessing, etc. Acts in violation of local law regulating or prohibiting the possession, carrying, use, manufacture or sale of weapons or weapon accessories. Examples of local law violations that are included under this code are: manufacture, sale or possession of deadly weapons; using or manufacturing silencers; furnishing deadly weapons to minors.
- (14) Sex offenses (except forcible rape) All law violations of a sexual nature apart from those by "forcible rape." Included are: prostitution; pandering or procuring; fornication; buggery; incest; indecent exposure; indecent liberties; sodomy; and statutory rape (force not used).
- (15) Violation of drug laws: narcotic The violation of law relating to narcotic drugs. Examples are: unlawful possession, sale, manufacture, use, furnishing, etc. of narcotic drugs; keeping or frequenting an opium den; habitual use of narcotic drugs.
- (16) Violation of drug laws: all except narcotic Any illegal act, as defined locally, with respect to drugs other than narcotic drugs.
- (17) Drunkenness Alcoholic intoxication, drunkenness and associated behavior forbidden by local law. Included in this code are all referrals for alcoholic intoxication with the exception of those coming under "driving while intoxicated." Included under this code are: drunkenness or intoxication due to liquor; drunk and disorderly; and common or habitual drunkard. Excluded from this code are violations of all other liquor laws which are coded (00) "other" or (25) "the possessing or drinking of liquor."
- (18) Disorderly conduct Any behavior which is a breach of the peace under local law, apart from behavior of this kind which is a product of drugs or liquor or which pertains to sex. Included are the following: affray; unlawful assembly; disturbing the peace; disturbing meetings; disorderly conduct in State or local institutions, agencies, at fairs, on public conveyances.

Disorderly behavior due to the intoxicated or drugged condition of the child is coded as (17) "drunkenness" or (14) or (15) "violation of drug law." Law violations of a sexual nature, such as taking indecent liberties, indecent exposure, and prostitution, are coded as (14) "sex offenses."

Column/ Variable Width Number

#### Code Value and Description

- (19) Vandalism The willful or malicious destruction, injury, disfigurement or defacement of any public or private property, real or personal, without consent of the owner or person having custody or control, by cutting, tearing, breaking, marking, painting, drawing, covering with filth, or any other such means as may be specified by local law. This code covers a wide range or malicious behavior directed at property such as: cutting auto tires; drawing obscene pictures on public restroom walls; smashing windows; destroying school records; tipping over gravestones; defacing library books.
- (20) Trespassing The presence of a child on the property of another without the permission of the owner. This property may be commercial such as a store or a privately owned home.
- (40) Contempt of court Open disrespect or willful disobedience to a court.
- (41) Arson The intentional destruction or attempted destruction, by fire or explosive, of the property of another, or one's own property with the intent to defraud.
- (42) Escape from detention The unlawful departure of a lawfully confined person from a confinement facility.
- (00) Other (offenses applicable to both juveniles and adults) All other offenses applicable to both juveniles and adults, not expressly covered in the preceding codes. Examples are: gambling, vagrancy; blackmail; forgery; counterfeiting; embezzlement; fraud; obtaining money under false pretenses; possession of tools of crime; buying, receiving or possessing stolen property; and kidnapping.
- (21) Running away One or more abscondences from a court, or from an individual, or a single act of leaving or staying away from his own home without permission. This code does not include running from a legal detention facility, which is included in (42) "escape from detention," nor does it include unauthorized absence from school, which is coded (22) "truancy."

Also excluded are repeated absences from home during hours the child is expected to be in his home. These are included under the offense of (24) "ungovernable behavior." If the place run away from is not the child's home, however, repeated as well as single absences during hours the child is expected to be present will constitute "running away."

- (22) Truancy Unauthorized absence from school as defined under local law.
- (23) Violation of curfew Being on the street or in a public place after a specified time of night, in violation of local law. The local law may combine the regulation of presence in the street or public places by children after certain hours with restrictions upon specific kinds of behavior, such as "loitering." However, as long as the child's behavior is in violation of the time limitation, the offense should be counted under this item. If not in violation of the time limitation, the offense is coded under (18) "disorderly conduct" or another more appropriate item.

(24) Ungovernable behavior - Behavior which indicates that the child is persistently beyond the control of his parents or others who have charge of him. This code does not include unauthorized absences from school. However, if the child is regularly disobedient, disorderly, or uses abusive language in school, the offense is "ungovernable behavior." Also included are instances of repeated absences from home during times when the child is expected to be home, as well as habitually destructive or assaultive behavior in the home, frequent use of uncouth language in the home and other acts indicating disobedience to his parents.

Many courts prefer to classify sexual misbehavior by girls in terms of "incorrigibility," being "beyond control," etc. But sexual misbehavior is coded as (14) "sex offenses."

- (25) Possessing or drinking of liquor Those offenses for which adults would <u>not</u> be arrested. This code does not include "drunkenness" or "driving while intoxicated" or any violation that would be an adult violation.
- (26) Other status
- (27) Driving while intoxicated The driving or operating of any motor vehicle after consuming liquor if the capacity of liquor is measured at more than .15 in the blood.
- (28) Driving under the influence Operating a motor vehicle after consuming liquor which measures at least .10 but less than .15 in the blood.
- (29) Hit and run An offense which involves a person who, while driving a motor vehicle, is involved in a traffic accident and leaves the scene without identifying himself to the other involved or offering necessary assistance.

A child who, while riding a bicycle, knocks over a pedestrian and rides away has not committed the offense of "hit and run" since a bicycle is not considered a motor vehicle. But if he should do the same thing while riding a motor scooter, it is an offense which is counted under this item.

- (30) Reckless driving Driving or operating any motor vehicle in a reckless manner.
- (31) Driving without a license Driving or operating a motor vehicle by one who has not been validly licensed to do so by the appropriate authorities. Examples of situations giving rise to an offense under this item are the following: child disqualified by reason of age to receive a license; child disqualified by inability to meet licensing requirements other than age, such as failure to pass written test, or eye test; child's license is invalid due to failure to pay renewal fee; or child's license is invalid because of revocation by proper authority.

Not counted under this item are cases in which the child has been issued a valid license but did not have it in his immediate possession, as required by local law, at the time of his arrest. Column/ Variable Width Number

#### Code Value and Description

- (32) All other traffic All other traffic offenses not included in the categories listed above.
- (33) Special proceedings Cases in which court action is taken as a condition precedent to the provision of services to a physically handicapped child; commitment of mentally defective child (only if the court is empowered to order the commitment of a mentally defective child); adoption proceedings (only if the court is empowered to grant the adoption petition); and other cases including cases of determination of custody, applications for consent to marry or enlist in the armed forces, holding of material witness, etc.
- (34) Neglect The lack of adequate care or support from parent or guardian where such care or support may be lacking for one or more of a variety of reasons, such as illness or death of parents; employment of the mother away from home during the day or night; confinement of parents or guardian in hospitals, institutions for the insane, penal or correctional institutions; or the willful neglect of a child by the parent or guardian (including refusal to furnish necessary medical care).

It also includes cases of abandonment or desertion by one or both parents. In addition, it includes living under conditions injurious to morals in which the reason for referral is the child's living in a place likely to harm his moral development, such as in a home with parents or others in which conditions of immorality or intoxication exist, a house of prostitution, etc.

- (35) Abuse The abuse of a child in his home situation. This includes sexual, physical, or emotional abuse at the hands of parents or guardian.
- ( ) No entry
- (99) Missing

#### 36/1 MS018 VIOLATION OF PROBATION

Indicates the child has broken his probation during the commission of the offense for which he is being referred.

- (1) Yes
- (2) No

#### 37/1 MS019 VIOLATION OF PAROLE

Indicates the child has broken his parole during the commission of the offense for which he is being referred.

- (1) Yes
- (2) No
- (9) Missing

Column/ Variable Width Number		Code Value and Description
38/1	MS020	MANNER OF HANDLING

Indicates whether the juvenile was referred to court with or without a petition. A petition is a document filed in juvenile court alleging that a juvenile is a delinquent, a status offender, or neglected/dependent, and asking the court to assume jurisdiction over the juvenile.

- (1) Without a petition cases not placed on the official court calendar, but adjusted by the judge, referee, probation officer, or other officer of the court. This includes: cases handled by the probation officer or dropped or withdrawn without being placed on the calendar for hearing by the judge, although petitions were filed; and cases in which a child under the supervision of the court was brought in on a new referral and, as a result, a change in placement was made by the probation officer without bringing the case up for hearing by the judge.
- (2) With a petition Cases handled with a petition are those that are placed on the official court calendar for adjudication by the judge or referee through the filing of a petition or other legal paper used to initiate official court action. Included are the following types of situations: Cases that were started without the filing of a petition but before being disposed of were placed on the court calendar because a legal paper (affidavit or petition) was filed; cases in which petitions were filed but were withdrawn or dropped without further action, if the court procedure requires that such cases be placed on the court calendar for formal dismissal by the judge; and cases in which children under the supervision of the court were brought in for new offenses, and, as a result, a change in plan or type of care was made, the cases being placed on the court calendar for hearing by the judge.

**DATE OF DISPOSITION**: The date on which the final disposition decision was handed down by the court -- coded in standard month/day/year format.

NOTE: In order to retain jurisdiction if a further referral is received, certain courts order a case held open but do not anticipate the making of a further disposition, the court order being "continued indefinitely," "reserved generally," "continued generally," or any similar order that would be classified as "held open without further action." Under such circumstances the case is considered disposed of when the original order of continuance is made.

#### 39/2 MS021 YEAR OF DISPOSITION

(80) 1980

:

(84) 1984

( ) No entry

(99) Missing

Column/ <u>Width</u>	Variable <u>Number</u>	Code Value and Description
41/2	MS022	MONTH OF DISPOSITION
		(01) January :
		: (12) December
43/2	MS023	DATE OF DISPOSITION
		(01) First :
		(31) Thirty-first

MS024 DISPOSITION

45/2

This item refers to what was actually done or was intended to be done for the child rather than to the formal wording of the court order. The disposition of cases already under the supervision of the court and referred for a new offense report the disposition which shares the nature of the supervision the child is actually receiving. In cases in which more than one of the dispositions appear applicable, the case is reported under the item which is the most significant from the point of treatment and continued relationship to the court.

(00) Waived to justice or circuit court - Cases which are waived to a criminal court, which can be a justice or circuit court, for trial.

### Complaint not substantiated

(01) Dismissed--not proved or found not involved - The allegations were not proved and, as a consequence, the juvenile court adjudged that the child was not within the jurisdiction of the court and dismissed the case. Included are cases dropped as a result of a motion for nolle prosequi (no further action taken). Also included are cases in which petitions were filed but the complaints were withdrawn if court procedures require that such cases be placed on the court calendar for formal dismissal by the judge.

#### Complaint substantiated, no transfer of legal custody

(02) Dismissed, warned, adjusted - A finding and adjudication followed by either a dismissal of the case, a warning to the child or his parents, or some form of adjustment (excluding an order for restitution). This code also includes cases in which the court released the child to the parent or parents or other persons with whom he was living without placing him under the supervision of the probation officer. A case is "adjusted" when no petition has been filed, the child is believed to be involved as alleged, and

- where the case is closed after minor action by the court, such as advising or warning the parent or child, and the community requires no further action by the court.
- (03) Held open without further action Cases which were held open for fulfillment of certain conditions and no further disposition is anticipated; for instance, when the court merely retains jurisdiction of a case in order that if another referral is received the case may be brought into court again without the filing of a new petition. This procedure is described in various ways by courts; for instance, "reserved generally," "continued generally," and "continued indefinitely." This term also includes such dispositions as "sentence suspended," "placed on probation to parents," "placed under bond to keep the peace," or "made a ward," when these dispositions do not include supervision by the court or some agency or individual to which the court has referred the child or parents.
- (04) Probation officer to supervise The disposition of a case by an order placing the child on "probation." It means that the child is placed under the supervision and care of the juvenile court, but is permitted to remain in his own or another family's home. Parental rights and duties associated with the immediate supervision and day-to-day care of the juvenile are not disturbed.
- (05) Supervision and fined The child is placed under the supervision of the court, as described in (04), and is also required to pay a fine. A fine is the penalty imposed upon a convicted person by a court requiring that he pay a specified sum of money.
- (06) Supervision and suspended license The child is placed under the supervision of the court, as explained in (04), and his driver's license is impounded or revoked by the court as a part of his penalty.
- (07) Supervision and restitution The child is placed under the supervision of the court and restitution is ordered by the court. Restitution is the payment or replacement of losses.
- (08) Supervision and special services The child is placed under the supervision of the court and special services are required of him. Special services are additional dispositional alternatives which are constructive community service activities on the part of the child.
- (09) Fined The court required a convicted child to pay a specified sum of money.
- (10) Suspended license The court impounds or revokes the driver's license of a child.
- (11) Restitution The court orders the child to pay or replace the loss of the victim.
- (12) Special services Cases in which the court orders an additional dispositional alternative requiring constructive community activity on the part of the child.
- (13) Referral to another agency or individual for supervision or service Instances where a child is referred to another agency such as a public welfare department, a child guidance clinic, a

- family service agency or a child placing agency, whether under private or public auspices. Also included are referrals to individuals. Cases involving transfer of custody should be coded (18), (19), or (20).
- (14) Runaway returned to Child is returned to an agency, institution, his own home, another county or state, after running away.
- (15) Other without transfer of legal custody

#### Complaint substantiated, transfer of legal custody to

- (16) Public institution for delinquents The child was committed to an institution maintained by the state, county, or city for delinquent children. Also included are cases in which a boy or girl committed a new offense and was referred to a parole officer for return to the institution.
- (17) Other public institution The child was committed to an institution other than one for delinquent children, maintained by the state, county, or city, such as an institution for feebleminded or epileptic children, or a county home.
- (18) Public agency or department, including court The child was committed to an agency under state, county, or municipal auspices; for example, a state department of public welfare, a county child-welfare board, or a city department of charities.
- (19) Private agency or institution The child was committed to an agency or institution under private auspices, such as associated charities, a private child-placing agency, or House of Good Shepherd.
- (20) Individual The child is placed under the custody of an individual.
- (21) Other Includes all dispositions made by a juvenile court in instances where there has been a finding and adjudication other than those classifiable above under codes (16), (17), (18), (19), or (20), in which there has been a legal transfer of custody.
- (22) Inapplicable--special proceedings Includes all cases of special proceedings; does not include delinquency, neglect or traffic offenses.

#### 47/1 MS025 NUMBER OF PRIOR TRAFFIC REFERRALS

The number of prior traffic referrals for any and all calendar years.

- (0) None
- (1) One

:

- (5) Five or more
- (9) Missing

		21
Column/ <u>Width</u>	Variable <u>Number</u>	Code Value and Description
48/1	MS026	NUMBER OF PRIOR NEGLECT REFERRALS
		The number of prior neglect referrals for any and all calendar years.
		(0) None (1) One :
		: (5) Five or more (9) Missing
49/1	MS027	DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES PSYCHOLOGICAL
		The special services provided by a clinical, counselling, or educational psychologist.
		<ul><li>(1) Indicated and provided</li><li>(2) Indicated but not available</li><li>(3) Not indicated</li><li>(9) Missing</li></ul>
50/1	MS028	DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES PSYCHIATRIC
		The special services provided by a medical doctor with psychiatric specialization.
		<ul><li>(1) Indicated and provided</li><li>(2) Indicated but not available</li><li>(3) Not indicated</li><li>(9) Missing</li></ul>
51/1	MS029	DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES MEDICAL
		The medical care provided by a physician.
		<ul><li>(1) Indicated and provided</li><li>(2) Indicated but not provided</li><li>(3) Not indicated</li><li>(9) Missing</li></ul>
52/1	MS030	DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES SOCIAL
		The special services provided by a probation officer, social worker, welfare agency, etc.
		<ul><li>(1) Indicated and provided</li><li>(2) Indicated but not provided</li><li>(3) Not indicated</li><li>(9) Missing</li></ul>

Oak was a /	Mariabla	22
Column/ <u>Width</u>	Variable <u>Number</u>	Code Value and Description
53/1	MS031	PRESENTLY IN SCHOOL
		(1) Yes (2) No (90 Missing
54/2	MS032	YEARS OF SCHOOLING COMPLETED
		Indicates the last year of school completed by the youngster. This is entered for all children whether or not they are in school.
		<ul><li>(00) Preschool or kindergarten</li><li>(01) First grade</li><li>:</li></ul>
		: (12) Twelfth grade or more (99) Missing
56/1	MS033	GRADE PLACEMENT IN RELATION TO AGE
		Refers to school placement in relation to chronological age.
		<ul> <li>(1) Retarded</li> <li>(2) At expected level</li> <li>(3) Below expected level</li> <li>(4) Accelerated</li> <li>(5) Special education</li> <li>(6) Not in school</li> </ul>
		(9) Missing
57/1	MS034	SERIOUS OR PERSISTENT SCHOOL MISBEHAVIOR
		Refers to serious incidents of misbehavior requiring disciplinary action by school personnel.
		<ul><li>(1) Yes</li><li>(2) No</li><li>(3) Not in school</li><li>(9) Missing</li></ul>
58/1	MS035	EMPLOYMENT STATUS
		Indicates whether or not the juvenile was employed at the time of the referral.

(1) Employed full-time

Column/	Variable	23
Width	Number	Code Value and Description
		<ul><li>(2) Employed part-time</li><li>(3) Not employed</li><li>(4) Inapplicable, preschool</li><li>(9) Missing</li></ul>
59/1	MS036	LENGTH OF RESIDENCE OF CHILD IN COUNTY
		The length of time the juvenile has lived in the county in which the case was referred to court.
		<ul> <li>(0) Not currently a resident</li> <li>(1) Less than one year</li> <li>(2) One year but less than five years</li> <li>(3) Five years or more</li> <li>(9) Missing</li> </ul>
60/2	MS037	LIVING ARRANGEMENTS OF CHILD
		Refers to the person(s) with whom the child was living at the time of referral.
		<ul> <li>(01) With both parents</li> <li>(02) With mother and stepfather</li> <li>(03) With father and stepmother</li> <li>(04) With mother only</li> <li>(05) With father only</li> <li>(06) In home of relatives</li> <li>(07) In foster family home</li> <li>(08) In institution</li> <li>(09) In independent living arrangements</li> <li>(10) In other place</li> <li>(99) Missing</li> </ul>
62/2	MS038	MARITAL STATUS OF NATURAL PARENTS
		The marital status of the juvenile's natural parents at the time of the referral.
		<ul> <li>(01) Parents married and living together</li> <li>(02) Both dead</li> <li>(03) Father dead</li> <li>(04) Mother dead</li> <li>(05) Divorced or legally separated</li> <li>(06) Father deserted mother</li> <li>(07) Mother deserted father</li> <li>(08) Other reason separated</li> <li>(09) Parents not married to each other</li> <li>(10) Other status</li> </ul>

Caluman/	Mariable	24		
Column/ <u>Width</u>	Variable <u>Number</u>	Code Value and Description		
		(11) Unknown (99) Missing		
64/1	MS039	ANNUAL FAMILY INCOME		
		(1) Receiving public assistance		

Not receiving public assistance at time of referral:

- (2) Under \$5,000
- (3) \$5,000 to \$7,999
- (4) \$8,000 to \$11,999
- (5) \$12,000 and over
- (6) Unknown
- (9) Missing

#### 65/1 MS040 LOCATION OF RESIDENCE

The child's residence at the time of referral.

- (1) Rural A residence in any area with less than 2,500 population which is characterized by agricultural or natural landscape. These could be either farm or non-farm residences. The non-farm rural area would include the small village or town of less than 2,500 population which has no central city adjacent to it.
- (2) Urban-predominantly residential An urban area of 2,500 or more, characterized by a predominance of residences with scattered retail services and schools in the neighborhood.
- (3) Urban-predominantly business or industrial area An urban area of 2,500 or more population which is characterized by a predominance of either retail or business establishments or industry and manufacturing establishments, processing plants, warehouses, etc.
- (4) Suburban Areas surrounding or adjacent to a larger city which is usually characterized by residences. This classification is used only if it is generally recognized that the area is suburban and known as such.
- (9) Missing

#### 66/1 MS047 CHILD IN NEED OF SUPERVISION

Indicates whether or not the child has been adjudicated as "in need of supervision" -- defined in the juvenile code as a child of 7 years of age or older who is ungovernable, truant, runaway, or has committed a delinquent act.

- (1) Yes
- (2) No
- (9) Missing

# Appendix I

Mississippi's Juvenile Court Statistical Form

2.	County/Child Number	County Child	6.	. Race
3.	Date of Birth	Year Mo. Day	•	2. Black (not Hispanic) 3. American Ind. or Alaskan 4. Asian or Pacific Islander
4.	Age 🔲 🗆	7. Date of Referral	Year Mo. Day	6. Other
9. 10a. · 0. · 1. 2. 3. 3. 4. 5. 5.	Referred by  1. Law Enforcement Agency 2. School department 3. Social Agency 4. Probation Officer 5. Parents or Relatives 6. Other Court 7. Interstate Compact 8. Other Source Specify  Prior Delinquency Referrals (excluding traffic) a. This calendar year  0 1 2 3 4 5 or more referrals b. In prior years  0 1 2 3 4 5 or more referrals  Care Pending Disposition  No detention or shelter care over night. Detention or shelter care over night of police station. Detention Center. Shelter Care, Foster Family home, Other place (specify)  If detained in jail/detention center:  Date Entered  Time Entered  Time Entered	11. Reason Referred Offenses applicable to bot  01 Murder or non-negligent manslav 02 Manslaughter by negligence 03 Forcible rape 04 Robbery: Purse snatching by for 05 Robbery: Purse snatching by for 05 Robbery: All except purse snatch 06 Assault: Aggravated 07 Assault: All except aggravated 08 Burglary - breaking or entering 09 Auto theft: Unauthorized use 10 Auto theft: Unauthorized use 11 Larceny: Shoplifting 12 Larceny: All except unauthoriz 11 Larceny: Shoplifting 13 Weapons carrying, possessing, et 14 Sex offenses (except forcible rape 15 Violation of drug laws: Narcotic 16 Violation of drug laws: All excep 17 Drunkenness 18 Disorderly conduct 19 Vandalism 20 Trespassing 40 Contempt of court 41 Arson 42 Escape from detention 00 Other (Specify):  Offenses applicable to Juvenii 21 Running away 22 Truancy 23 Violation of Curfew 24 Ungovernable behavior  Traffic Offenses 27 Driving while intoxicated 28 Driving under the influence 29 Hit and run 30 Reckless driving  33 Special Proceedings (adopting, co (Specify) 34 Neglect 35 Abuse	ch juveniles and adults (excluding traffic)  righter  ce aing  ced use  ce.  ce.  ce.  ce.  ce.  ce.  ce.  c	13. Manner of Handling    1 Without a petition 2 With a petition 14. Date of Disposition
16.	Prior Traffic and Neglect a. Total number of prior t  0 1 2 3 4 5 or n	12. Violation of: Probation Parole  25. Child in need of supervision  26. Date of Adjudicatory H  Referrals raffic referrals core	1 2	18 Public agency or department (including court) 19 Private agency or institution 20 Individual 21 Other (specify) 22 Inapplicable · Special Proceedings  t of child
17.	b. Total number of prior r 0 1 2 3 4 5 or r  Diagnostic Services  Need for Diagnostic and Providence  Need for Diagnostic and Providence and	nostic Services	03 With father and stepmo 04 With mother only 05 With father only 06 In home of relatives 07 In foster family home 08 In institution 09 In independent living ar 10 In other place (specify)	rrangments
18.	a. Psychological 1 b. Psychiatric 1 c. Medical 1 d. Social 1  School placement and adj a. Presently in school (1 Y) b. Years of schooling com 00 01 02 03 04 05 06 c. Grade placement in relative to the school of t	2 3 2 3 2 3 2 3 2 3 2 3 2 3 2 3 2 3 2 3	22. Marital Status of N.  01 Parents married and liv. ONE OR BOTH PARE. 02 Both dead 03 Father dead 04 Mother dead PARENTS SEPARATE 05 Divorced or legally seps 06 Father deserted mother. 07 Mother deserted father; 08 Other reason (Specify) 09 Parents not married to 0 10 Other status (Specify) 11 Unknown	ing together NTS DEAD: ED: arated ; each other
19.	Employment Status: 1. Employed full-time 2. Employed part-time 3. Not employed	6. Inapplicable (not in school) hool misbehavior  cable (not in school)	23. Family Income (An:  1. Receiving assistance at NOT RECEIVING ASSIS'  2. Under \$5,000  3. \$5,000 to \$7,999  4. \$8,000 to \$11,999  5. \$12,000 and over	
20.	4. Inapplicable (pre-school)  Length of residence (of chi 0 Not currently resident of county 1 Under one year 2 One year but less than 5 years 3 Five years or more	ld) in county	24. Location of Resider  1 Rural. 2 Urban — predominently 3 Urban — predominently 4 Suburban	residential

# Appendix II

Original Data Collector's Statement of Acceptance

#### STATEMENT OF ACCEPTANCE

I have the authority and having reviewed Mississippi Juvenile Court Case Records: 1975 - 1978 User's Guide hereby accept it as an accurate description of the delinquency and status offense data stored at the National Juvenile Court Data Archive and of the methods used by the Mississippi Department of Youth Services to collect these data.

Comments to users:

NORC

I. Walter Wood, IV. Administrator Community Services Division (Name, title, and organization) 14155. Drot. of Vorte Services

Attantionally 2/29/88